

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

March 22, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR Lighting Partners and Stakeholders,

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to announce the launch of the ENERGY STAR Lamps V1.0 specification development process.

During the fall of 2009, EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) agreed to transition ENERGY STAR program responsibilities for specification development to EPA. As part of that transition, EPA and DOE developed a strategic document detailing the consolidation of the Program's lighting efforts from multiple specifications written for specific products and technologies, to technology-neutral specifications written for product categories. The Luminaires specification development process recently concluded with the release of the final specification on February 16, 2011. EPA is today announcing the beginning of the process to develop the ENERGY STAR Lamps Version 1.0 specification, which will incorporate the scopes of the existing Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) and Integral LED Lamp specifications.

Significant opportunity remains for the ENERGY STAR program to help consumers identify light bulbs that save energy, while cost effectively providing the performance they seek. In 2012, federal minimum efficiency standards for general service lamps will begin to phase in. While the standards will increase the performance baseline and thus decrease the savings potential, substantial savings in excess of 50% will remain available, meaning that there is a continued and significant role for ENERGY STAR in providing guidance to consumers. A key consideration for development of a technology-neutral specification is the observation that consumers shop for light bulbs, not technologies, therefore ENERGY STAR performance requirements should not vary widely. Also, LED lamp performance is becoming increasingly competitive with CFL performance. The technologies should compete for ENERGY STAR recognition, rather than reference separate performance requirements.

The attached Lamps V1.0 Specification Framework is intended to outline EPA's reassessment of the present ENERGY STAR lamp programs, and to describe how the programs for CFLs and LED lamps may be combined in a way that is a reflection of changes in the market. Included in this document are EPA's initial thoughts on new and modified definitions, eligible products, test methods, and revisions to program requirements. After each section is a set of questions designed to facilitate discussion with stakeholders, and to further EPA's understanding of the product category.

Communication between EPA and industry stakeholders is critical to the success of the ENERGY STAR program, especially in this early stage of the specification development

process. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the concepts presented and questions posed in this document. Any and all creative suggestions for improvements to the basic approach outlined in this document will be considered for inclusion in subsequent drafts and the final specification. ENERGY STAR representatives are available for additional technical discussions with interested parties at any time during the specification development process. To arrange a meeting, please send a message to lamps@energystar.gov, or to me at baker.alex@epa.gov.

EPA encourages stakeholders to review this document in conjunction with the ENERGY STAR Version 4.2 specification for CFLs and Version 1.3 of Integral LED Lamps, as the current specifications will serve as a starting point for development of the Lamps Version 1.0 specification. Written comments on the Specification Framework may be submitted to lamps@energystar.gov by Friday, April 29, 2011, with the subject line "ENERGY STAR Lamps Specification Framework". Comment letters received will be posted to www.energystar.gov/lamps, except those marked "Do Not Post".

The release of this document represents an exciting opportunity for the lighting and efficiency communities to re-examine past successes, with the goal of positioning ENERGY STAR to provide even more valuable guidance to consumers in the transformative years to come. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this process to ensure that ENERGY STAR remains the most trusted mark of efficiency and quality in this product category.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Baker", written in a cursive style.

Alex Baker
ENERGY STAR Lighting Program Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency